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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicants:	Craig D. Johnson et al.	§	Art Unit:	3679
Serial No.:	10/708,517	§		
Filed:	March 9, 2004	§	Examiner:	Aaron M. Dunwoody
Title:	JOINING TUBULAR MEMBERS	§	Docket No.	68.0322US (SHL.0238US)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

Dear Sir:

Please cancel claims 50, 52, 53, 55-60, 62-67 and 70 without prejudice in accordance with the following CLAIM AMENDMENTS section; and consider the comments in the following REMARKS section.

Date of Deposit: November 20, 2006
I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 571-223-8300) on the date indicated above.
Janice Munoz